

Our University Seal.



HERALDRY, in our modern sense of heraldic and armorial insignia, dates from the 12th century—the opening of the age of chivalry, of splendour in royal progresses; of knightly formality; of great processions embodying the life of Church and State; of all the pride, pomp and circumstance of glorious war; where rich and poor felt it becoming that each office and inheritance, should have fitting emblems; and when all felt a sense of dignity in doing their duty in their respective states, mutually distinct, with impassable barriers. For, chivalry may be called a religious order, with its duties as well as its rights. *Noblesse oblige* was of its essence. And Burke saw into the life of things when, in his magnificent way, he worshipped the outward form of the heraldry of society, of the state; and then made his act of faith in the true spirit of reverence which leads us to embody, thus, in signs and in symbols, our duty, our devotion, and our love:—“Always acting as if in the presence of canonized forefathers, the spirit of freedom, leading itself to misrule and excess, is tempered with an awful gravity. This idea of a liberal descent inspires us with a sense of habitual native dignity, which prevents that upstart insolence almost inevitably adhering to and disgracing those who are the first acquirers of any distinction, By this means our liberty becomes a noble freedom. It carries an imposing and majestic aspect. It has a pedigree and illustrating ancestors. It has its bearing and its ensigns armorial. It has its gallery of portraits, its monumental inscriptions, its records, evidences, and titles.”

Thus it is that a university appeals to the depth of national feelings, and cherishes whatever are the holiest and the highest aspirations of the people who to her care confides those whom fortune has favoured so highly that they are the ones amongst us who will know most, who